



City of Cincinnati

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City Manager Launches New Citizens Government Academy

City Manager Milton Dohoney is opening the halls of city government to citizens in a whole new way. Dohoney is kicking off the first City of Cincinnati Citizens Government Academy, a nine-week program designed to provide an in-depth look at how local government is organized and how services are funded and delivered. The goal of the academy is to improve citizens' understanding of the workings of effective government and to encourage their involvement for improved and sustained quality-of-life in their communities now and in the future.

"As city government makes tougher choices, it's more important than ever that citizens have a broad understanding of how their government works," said Dohoney. "We believe that informed citizens are involved citizens. That makes for better government," he continued. "The Academy may also bring forth some new ideas from the public that we need to consider."

Academy students will take field trips to various departments to learn about its services and programs.

The schedule is as follows:

Week 1 (9/24)	Orientation Where Does it Come From? Where Does it Go? <i>Presenters: Finance Department and Office of Budget & Evaluation</i>
Week 2 (10/1)	Policy Making and Leadership <i>Presenters: Mayor/Councilmembers/Manager's Office</i>
Week 3 (10/8)	Stabilizing Neighborhoods, Inviting Growth, and Navigating the System <i>Presenters: Community Development & Planning, Economic Development Department, and Transportation & Engineering</i>
Week 4 (10/15)	Potholes, Trash and the Secret Code <i>Presenters: Public Services and Buildings & Inspections</i>
Week 5 (10/22)	Entertainment and the Natural World <i>Presenters: Cincinnati Recreation Commission and Cincinnati Park Board</i>

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| Week 6
(10/29) | Healthy Bodies and Healthy Air
Presenters: Health Department and Office of Environmental Quality |
| Week 7
(11/5) | What's on Tap and What's Down Below
<i>Presenters: Greater Cincinnati Water Works and Metropolitan Sewer District</i> |
| Week 8
(11/13) | Laws, Ladders, and Keeping Order
<i>Presenters: Law, Fire and Police Departments</i> |
| Week 9
(11/19) | Wrap Up and Graduation |

The Citizens Government Academy will begin on Monday, September 24, and will run for nine consecutive weeks from 6 to 9 p.m.

The Citizens Government Academy is free and available to all city residents. Class size is limited to 20 participants, and will be filled in the order in which the applications are received. Deadline for applications is September 14. For more information, please call Trina Porter at 352-5335 or e-mail trina.porter@cincinnati-oh.gov. Applications are available on-line at www.cincinnati-oh.gov or at City Hall, 801 Plum Street, Suite 104.

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